

WILTON HERITAGE COMMISSION MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 23, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 7 P.m. at the Wilton Public and Gregg Free Library. Present were Stanley Young, David Potter, Michael Dell'Orto, and Nancy Clark.

The November minutes were read, amended, and approved. The Treasurer reported that \$64 had been spent from the private fund to pay for the Heritage Commission's half of the canopy used at events like Old Home Days.

Commission members discussed the accomplishments of the past year. The completion and publication of the Tour of Historic Wilton brochure was a notable achievement. As well, we installed two new markers – one at the Unitarian Church and the other at Andy's Playhouse. We also participated in Old Home Days.

Ideas for projects for the upcoming year were discussed. Stanley had some thoughts on proposed sites for new markers. He suggested the placement of a sign on lower Main Street discussing the Mills and another sign at Lot 48 telling the story of Wilton's successive downtown fires. A marker for the old Whiting Dairy was also considered, and one for the American Legion Hall. The displays in the kiosk by the police station need to be updated as well. It was noted that some of the existing signs are in need of repair and a touchup of their paint. The sign for Abbot Hill needs to have a post repositioned. Most likely it will have to be cemented in place because of the ledge it sits upon.

Stanley shared an article about Peterborough's walking tour's software. He noted that the service is pricey and remains an ongoing expense.

Michael suggested organizing an event of some sort to commemorate the anniversary of the Meeting House Tragedy – the falling of the beam – and/or the burning of the Meeting House which occurred in December of 1859. He also suggested marking the downtown fires with an event or ceremony, perhaps coordinated with the installation of the proposed sign for Lot 48.

David read an email from a local resident who has been researching the history of an old mill that once stood upon what is now his property. He has found the remains of Hopkin's Mill and has invited members of the Heritage Commission to visit the site. Everyone present expressed interest and we look forward to the expedition once the snow has melted and the mud abated.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Clark, Secretary

The Heritage Committee did not meet in January because of a snowstorm on the night of the meeting.